

15A NCAC 02D .2303 APPLICABILITY AND ELIGIBILITY

(a) Applicability. Any facility that has the potential to emit nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, sulfur dioxide, ammonia, or fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) in amounts greater than 25 tons per year and that is in a federally designated ozone or fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) nonattainment area in North Carolina is eligible to create and bank nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, sulfur dioxide, ammonia, or fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) emission reduction credits.

(b) Eligibility of emission reductions.

- (1) To be approved by the Director as an emission reduction credit, a reduction in emissions shall be real, permanent, quantifiable, enforceable, and surplus and shall have occurred:
 - (A) for ozone after December 31, 2002 for areas previously designated nonattainment according to the 1997 8-hour ozone standard, including the Charlotte-Gastonia-Rock Hill, NC-SC nonattainment area, the Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill nonattainment area, the Rocky Mount nonattainment area, and the Haywood and Swain Counties (Great Smoky Mountains National Park) nonattainment area, and after December 31, 2000 for all other nonattainment areas.
 - (B) for fine particulate (PM_{2.5}) after December 31, 2002 for the areas previously designated nonattainment according to the 1997 PM_{2.5} standard, including the former Greensboro-Winston-Salem-High Point, NC and Hickory-Morganton-Lenoir, NC nonattainment areas.
- (2) To be eligible for consideration as emission reduction credits, emission reductions may be created by any of the following methods:
 - (A) installation of control equipment beyond what is necessary to comply with existing rules;
 - (B) a change in process inputs, formulations, products or product mix, fuels, or raw materials;
 - (C) a reduction in the actual emission rate;
 - (D) a reduction in operating hours;
 - (E) production curtailment or reduction in throughput;
 - (F) shutdown of emitting sources or facilities; or
 - (G) any other enforceable method resulting in real, permanent, quantifiable, enforceable, and surplus reduction of emissions.

(c) Ineligible for emission reduction credit. Emission reductions from the following shall not be eligible to be banked as emission reduction credits:

- (1) sources covered by a special order or variance until compliance with the emission standards that are the subject of the special order or variance is achieved;
- (2) sources that have operated less than 24 months;
- (3) emission allocations and allowances used in a federal emissions budget trading program;
- (4) emission reductions outside North Carolina; or
- (5) mobile sources.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 143-215.3(a)(1); 143-215.107(a)(12);*
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